

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)	
Revocation of the Educator)	CONSENT ORDER OF
Certificate of Natvarlal P. Patel,)	SUSPENSION
Certificate 220808)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 9, 2005. On September 27, 2005, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Natvarlal P. Patel a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension of his South Carolina educator certificate 220808 by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Mr. Patel received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing his signature. Mr. Patel subsequently agreed to waive his right to a hearing and to accept the voluntary suspension of his certificate for a one-year period that would commence retroactively on August 26, 2005, and end on August 25, 2006. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to order the suspension of Mr. Patel's certificate under the agreed upon terms.

Natvarlal
Patel
220808

Initial Here

Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Patel holds a temporary South Carolina certificate and has less than one year of teaching experience in the United States. Mr. Patel has over nineteen years of experience in another country. During the 2005-2006 school year, Mr. Patel was hired as an induction contract teacher in the Lee County School District and was assigned to Lee Central High School. Mr. Patel was terminated on August 26, 2005, after allegations arose that he had used unwarranted physical force with a student.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to suspend Mr. Patel’s certificate 220808, commencing retroactively on August 26, 2005, through August 25, 2006. If Mr. Patel wishes to have his certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, Mr. Patel may make a written request to the Office of Educator Certification of the Department.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Paul M. Forrester

Paul M. Forrester

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

November 9, 2005

I, Natvarlal Patel, SC Educator Certificate 220808, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval on November 9, 2005.

/S/ Natavarial Patel

Natvarlal P. Patel

10/20/05

Date